

Menomonie Urban Forestry Board Minutes

April 21, 2021 – 2:00pm – Council Chambers – 800 Wilson Ave

Committee Members Present:

Cindy Gilberts (1 hr.)

Joe Jax (Chair) (2 hrs.)

Dennis Kropp (2 hrs.)

Mike Schendel (1 hr.)

Nancy Schofield (2 hrs.)

Mike Smith (1 hr.)

Others present: Dick Henning, Megen Hines and Randy Eide

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 2:03 pm by Joe Jax, Chair.

Acceptance of Minutes: **MOTION** made by Cindy Gilberts to accept the March 17, 2021 meeting minutes, seconded by Mike Schendel. **MOTION** carried.

Public Comments: - None

Review 2021 Arbor Day & International Migratory Bird Day Celebration, April 30, 2021, 10 am at Our House Senior Living: - The Board reviewed the event program, speaker line-up and Citizen of the Year plaque. Dick Henning will pick out the tree and bush at Bobolink Nursery, stake the planting area, call Digger's Hotline and dig the hole prior to the program on April 30, 2021. The board determined Nancy Schofield will introduce the Citizen of the Year Award and Mike Schendel will introduce Marie Young. Randy Eide encouraged board members to attend the program and reminded that we will be following masking and social distancing guidelines during the program.

Dunn County Fair Booth: The Board discussed the possibility of having a booth at the Dunn County Fair. The board requested Dick Henning look into if the County is planning to hold the fair and report back at the May meeting.

Items for Discussion Only: Joe Jax discussed a recent newspaper article that highlighted Lacrosse's efforts to inventory their trees, including the number of ash trees needing to be removed and the number of trees needed in coming years to replace their tree canopy.

Urban Forester Report:

- **Pruning Update:** Pruning of Zone 4 is complete. Two tree removals of dead trees remain to be completed.
- **Ash Tree Treatment:** Dick Henning anticipates treatment will begin in early May, weather pending.
- **Tree Inventory Update:** The current tree inventory on the City's GIS system is dated and is need of updating. The City has purchased iPads to update GIS features that can be utilized for the update of the tree inventory. City staff will work to review current inventory, assess attributes that need to be added to the system and will work on updating the tree inventory. The board requested progress reports to be added to the monthly agenda until the project is completed.

City Council Report:

- **Cork Tree Ordinance:** Randy Eide summarized Council discussion of this subject from a recent City Council meeting. There is strong council support for drafting an ordinance declaring female Amur Cork trees a public nuisance. Next steps will be to draft ordinance language and gather public input.
- **New City Council Members:** Randy Eide announced that the City Council has two new members: Lucas Chase and Kelly McCullough. Eric Sutherland was appointed as the City Council representative to the Urban Forestry Board.
- **Construction Update:** Randy Eide summarized upcoming construction projects on 21st St by the Middle School, River Road, sidewalk updates on the south side of Main St and Tainter St, and additional 4-plexes being built near Ball field #7 near Wakanda Park. Eide described a storm water pond failure in Wakanda Park. Eide announced that Bruce Heath, Community Services Superintendent, is retiring at the end of April after 18 years with the City.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 in the City Hall Council Chambers at 2:00 p.m. and via Zoom.

Items for Next Meeting: Dunn County Fair Booth and GIS Tree Inventory

Adjournment: There being no further business, **MOTION** made by Nancy Schofield, seconded by Mike Schendel to adjourn at 2:33 pm. **MOTION** carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Megen Hines
Environmental Program Coordinator